



GAO

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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

September 16, 2004

The Honorable Christopher Shays
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Security,
Emerging Threats and International Relations
Committee on Government Reform
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We received your letter dated September 2, 2004, requesting that the Government Accountability Office examine how the Department of Defense assesses compliance with DOD Instruction 5210-87, requiring that persons associated with Presidential Support Activities meet the highest Defense Department security clearance requirements.

GAO accepts your request as work that is within the scope of its authority. To fully respond to your request, GAO plans to initiate work on this project in January 2005 when it is expected that staff with the required skills will be available. Your request has been assigned to Mr. Henry L. Hinton, Jr., Managing Director, Defense Capabilities and Management. Mr. Hinton or a member of his team will contact Mr. Lawrence Halloran or Mr. Vincent Chase to discuss the request and options for helping you meet your needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Hinton at 202-512-6599 or Mr. Jerry Skelly, Assistant Director for Congressional Relations, on my staff at 202-512-9918.

Sincerely yours,

Gloria L. Jarmon
Managing Director for
Congressional Relations

cc: The Honorable Dennis J. Kucinich
Ranking Minority Member

Ref: CCAR 04-1312